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	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
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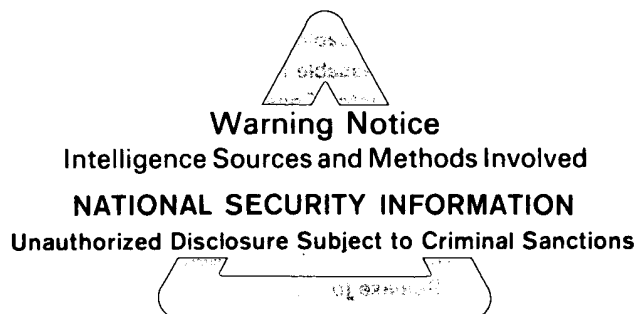
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NPIC/IEG (1/82)

15 JANUARY 1982

NEW AIRFIELD UNDER CONSTRUCTION
AL WIGH, LIBYA

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1. (S/D) SIGNIFICANCE: A NEW JET CAPABLE AIRFIELD WAS OBSERVED
IN THE MID-STAGE OF CONSTRUCTION IN SOUTHWESTERN LIBYA, ON

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2. (S/D) REMARKS: THE NEWLY IDENTIFIED AL WIGH AIRFIELD
IS 172 NM SOUTH OF SEBHA AIRFIELD
AND 74 NM NORTH OF THE LIBYA-CHAD BORDER.

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THE AIRFIELD CONSISTS OF A MAIN NORTHWEST/SOUTHEAST RUNWAY,
4,316 X 72 METERS (14,160 X 236 FT), A SECONDARY NORTHEAST/
SOUTHWEST RUNWAY, 1,805 X 45 METERS (5,922 X 148 FT), ONE
PARALLEL TAXIWAY, FIVE LINK TAXIWAYS, AND A LARGE PARKING APRON
ON THE EAST SIDE OF THE AIRFIELD. ALL OF THESE FACILITIES
WERE IN THE PROCESS OF BEING GRADED AND ROLLED.

(S/D) A CONSTRUCTION/SUPPORT CAMP (NOT ON GRAPHIC), CONSISTING
OF ONE LARGE VEHICLE STORAGE BUILDING AND AT LEAST 50 HOUSING
TRAILERS IS ADJACENT TO THE EAST SIDE OF THE AIRFIELD. THE
CONSTRUCTION/SUPPORT CAMP AND PROBABLE RUNWAY DRAINAGE TRENCHES
WERE PRESENT

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NPIC/IEG (1/82)
15 JANUARY 1982

(S/D) ANALYST COMMENT: THIS AIRFIELD WILL PROVIDE ADDITIONAL
AIR DEFENSE IN LIBYA'S SOUTHERN DISTRICT, AND MAY ALSO SERVE
AS A STAGING BASE FOR ACTIVITIES INTO NEIGHBORING SUB-SAHARAN
AFRICAN NATIONS. 

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3. (S)  COORDINATES 24-05-02N 014-31-52E

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